Thus 2 and half English Volumes have been published in Hindi, two English Volumes in Tamil and one English Volume each in Punjabi and Gujarati.

The progress of translation and publication in various languages is detailed below:

Hindi : The translation work on remaining 7 and a half English Vols. is nearing completion, which will be published in 14 volumes as Foundation is making smaller Volumes *i.e.* 2 Volumes on an average of one English Volume. One Volume has been sent for printing and will be released on 14th April, 1995.

Tamil : The translation work of English Volume III is complete and has been sent for printing.

Punjabi: The translation of English Volumes II, III, IV, VII, IX, XI and XIII has been completed and Volume II has been sent to press for printing. The work of remaining Volumes is in progress.

Gujarati: The translation work of 10 English Volumes is nearing completion. Gujarat Govt. is undertaking the job. A sum of Rs. 16 lakhs has been released to the Govt. of Gujarat, Education Deptt. to get the books printed early.

Bengali : Volume I has been translated and vetted and given to the press for printing. Volume II is complete and ready to go to the printing press. Translation of Volume III is complete and under vetting. The translation work of Volumes IV to VIII is in progress. Vol. I in Bengali will be released in April 1995.

Oriya : Half of I English Volume has been translated and vetted and ready for printing. The work of translation and printing has as suggested by Govt. of Orissa been entrusted to NISWASS, a voluntary organisation of Orissa and the translation work is in progress.

Malyalam : On the recommedation of the State Govt., the State Institute of Languages has been entrusted the job. The translation work has already been started. A sum of Rs. 5 lakhs has been released to them to undertake the work. Translated and published three Volumes and the Fourth Volume is under print. The translation work of the remaining six Volumes is also complete and is being vetted.

Telugu : The State Govt. of Andhra Pradesh have already published 8 Volumes and the work in respect of remaining Volumes is in progress.

Urdu : The work has recently been entrusted to Aligarh Muslim University. The translation work of I Volume is in progress.

Assamese : Dr. Ambedkar Foundation is in correspondence with the State Govt. to get the translation and vetting done from the State Govt.

(b) and (c) Initially, the Project was scheduled to be completed by 31st December, 1994. But due to increase in the Volume of work as mentioned above, and the work being of a very literary and sensitive nature involving correspondence with the State Govts. selection of reliable translators and printing agencies, all efforts are aimed at completing the whole project expeditiously.

The implementation of the Scheme is, however, being monitored closely and regularly with all the agencies including State Govts with a view to complete the Project as possible.

Naitonal day for Aged Persons

3030. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a National Day for the aged was observed on October 1-2, 1994;

(b) if so, what schemes and programmes were launched there under; and

(c) whether any provisions for old age care homes and for maintenance and care of the old destitutes are contemplated under the programme?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) Yes, Sir, the International Day of the Elderly People was observed on October 1, 1994.

(b) and (c) The Central Government is implementing a Central Sector scheme for providing assistance to the voluntary organisations for Programmes relating to Welfare of Aged. Under this scheme voluntary organisations are given grant-in-aid for running Old Age Homes, Day Care Centres, Mobile Medicare Units and Non-institutional Services for the Welfare of the Aged. The scheme aims at providing physical, social, emotional, psychological, and economic support to the Aged (60 years and above) with a view to help them to continue to be usefully active members of the community.

Disabled persons

3091. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of disabled persons in the country State-wise;

(b) what steps Government have taken so far to protect the interests of the disabled persons in the country;

(c) whether there is any proposal to introduce a suitable legislation for the protection of rights of the disabled persons; and

(d) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) The National Sample Survey Organisation conducted a sample survey of physically handicapped persons during its 47th round (July-December 1991). This survey covered disabilities viz visual, communication (hearing and or speech) and locomotor. A Statement showing distribution of disabled persons per thousand by degree of disability separately for rural and urban areas alongwith estimated number of disabled persons for 17 major States and All-India level based on the 47th round is placed at Annexure-I (*See* Appendix 173, Annuexure No 64)

(b) Information is placed at Statement (*See* below).

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The details are being finalised.

Statement

The primary responsibility for the welfare and upliftment of the handicaped rests with the State Governments. However, in its coordinating and pace-setting role, the Centre has been assisting the State Govrenments as well as the voluntary organisations in programmes designed for rehabilitation of the handicapped. The Central Government has set up of following four National Institutes as apact level organisations in their respective areas of disabilitys—

(1) National Institute for the Visually Handicapped, Dehradun;

(2) National Institute for the Orthopaedically Handicapped. Calcutta;

(3) Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for the Hearing Handicapped, Bombay;

(4) National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped, Secunderabad.